



**MEDICAL CARE
STATISTICS
SECTION**
Department of Health Services

MEDI-CAL COUNTY PROGRAM MONTHLY AVERAGES FISCAL YEAR 1995-96

MEDI-CAL REPORT PUBLISHED: February 1997
Internet Homepage - <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/mcss>

ABSTRACT

Summary of average monthly Medi-Cal program data, eligibles as a percent of the county population, rates of users per 100 eligibles, and cost per user for each county.

INTRODUCTION

Utilization and provider payments for Medi-Cal services vary from county to county. This report updates prior reports and offers county data for Fiscal Year 1995-96.

Sandra R. Smoley, R.N.
Secretary
Health and Welfare Agency

Pete Wilson
Governor
State of California

S. Kimberly Belshé
Director
Department of Health Services

HIGHLIGHTS

Table 1

Statewide, an average of 5,426,417 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month of Fiscal Year (FY) 1995-96.

In FY 1995-96, the Medi-Cal population reflected 16.8 percent of California's total population.

The percentage of the population eligible for Medi-Cal varies sharply from county to county. In Merced County, 32.7 percent of the population was eligible while in Marin County, only 5.5 percent was eligible.

In most of the counties (50 of the 58), at least one person out of ten was eligible for Medi-Cal during FY 1995-96.

In Los Angeles County, 1,831,018 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month. This was 19.5 percent of the county's population. Los Angeles County accounted for 33.7 percent of the Statewide Medi-Cal population.

Over half of the total Medi-Cal population was located in only four counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, and San Bernardino.

Table 2

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.

Statewide, the percentage of persons who were eligible for regular Medi-Cal who actually used a covered service averaged 50.7 percent in FY 1995-96.

Thirty California counties had user rates of 50.0 percent or more in FY 1995-96.

Alpine County whose eligible population averaged 228 persons per month, had the lowest user rate, 35.1 percent.

Statewide, the average cost per user was \$359.35. Sierra County's cost per user of \$932.12 was the highest and the lowest cost per user was Merced County's \$240.62.

In six counties, the cost per user rates ran 25 percent or more below the Statewide average. Five counties had rates 25 percent or more above the Statewide average.

Various factors may influence the average cost per user in a county. One factor is the relative proportion of users receiving the more costly services, such as state hospital services, acute care hospital inpatient services, or long-term care.

DATA QUALIFICATIONS

Figures in this report do not represent the official budget figures for medical and related expenditures.

Expenditures in this report represent cash flow payments for medical care. Included are provider payments made through Delta Dental, state hospitals, and the major fiscal intermediary, Electronic Data Systems.

Excluded from this report are Medi-Cal payments for Early Periodic Screening, Short Doyle/Medi-Cal, Medicare Buy-In, per capita payments for managed care plan coverage, audit recovery monies, refunds, and administrative expenses.

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) are Medi-Cal pilot projects that are prepaid on a capitated at-risk basis. The first COHS went into effect June 1, 1983 in Monterey County and remained in effect through February 1985. A second was effective September 1, 1983 in Santa Barbara County. The Health Plan of San Mateo was effective December 1, 1987. The Solano Partnership HealthPlan was effective May 1, 1994. Orange County Organized Health System (CalOPTIMA) was effective October 1, 1995. Santa Cruz County Health Options was effective January 1, 1996.

Authorization and payment for most health care services are handled by the COHS for all Medi-Cal eligibles in the respective county. Certain services continue to be handled by other agencies, including dental services which are handled by Delta Dental (DD) for all counties.

Utilization and payment data reported in Table 2 for Orange, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and Solano Counties reflect only claims processed through the State's fiscal intermediaries (EDS and DD) and claims for state hospital services. The Statewide COHS enrollment averaged 314,420 persons per month during FY 1995-96.

It should also be noted that utilization and cost data for Medi-Cal Prepaid Health Plan (PHP) enrollees are not available and are excluded in Table 2. The Statewide PHP enrollment averaged 639,576 persons per month during FY 1995-96.

A Geographic Managed Care (GMC) pilot project began April 1, 1994. Utilization and payment data reported in Table 2 for Sacramento County reflect only claims processed through the State's fiscal intermediaries (EDS and DD) and claims for state hospital services.

The lower figures for eligibles reported in Table 2 as compared to Table 1 are four-month lag eligibles excluding Managed Care Plans.

TABLE 1
COUNTY POPULATION, MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES
AND MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES AS A PERCENT OF THE POPULATION
FISCAL YEAR 1995-96

COUNTY	JANUARY 1, 1996 POPULATION	MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES/1/ (INCLUDING MANAGED CARE PLANS)	ELIGIBLES PER 100 POPULATION
STATEWIDE	32,231,000	5,426,417	16.8
Alameda	1,356,100	205,150	15.1
Alpine	1,180	228	19.3
Amador	34,000	2,585	7.6
Butte	197,000	42,875	21.8
Calaveras	36,950	5,096	13.8
Colusa	17,950	3,760	20.9
Contra Costa	870,700	94,353	10.8
Del Norte	28,650	6,752	23.6
El Dorado	144,900	13,211	9.1
Fresno	760,900	218,237	28.7
Glenn	26,600	5,700	21.4
Humboldt	125,500	23,872	19.0
Imperial	140,100	39,993	28.5
Inyo	18,550	2,890	15.6
Kern	624,700	147,408	23.6
Kings	118,900	25,346	21.3
Lake	55,300	13,721	24.8
Lassen	31,050	5,060	16.3
Los Angeles	9,369,800	1,831,018	19.5
Madera	108,900	28,075	25.8
Marin	239,500	13,250	5.5
Mariposa	16,050	2,259	14.1
Mendocino	84,500	17,629	20.9
Merced	198,500	64,947	32.7
Modoc	10,150	2,459	24.2
Mono	10,600	747	7.0
Monterey	364,500	56,212	15.4
Napa	119,000	11,439	9.6
Nevada	87,000	7,847	9.0
Orange	2,624,300	291,065	11.1
Placer	206,000	18,276	8.9
Plumas	20,450	3,140	15.4
Riverside	1,381,900	216,842	15.7
Sacramento	1,123,400	238,928	21.3
San Benito	43,350	5,867	13.5
San Bernardino	1,589,500	318,754	20.1
San Diego	2,690,300	359,502	13.4
San Francisco	755,300	119,119	15.8
San Joaquin	529,300	125,359	23.7
San Luis Obispo	232,400	23,689	10.2
San Mateo	691,500	54,957	7.9
Santa Barbara	394,600	49,573	12.6
Santa Clara	1,612,300	190,201	11.8
Santa Cruz	243,000	28,719	11.8
Shasta	161,600	34,699	21.5
Sierra	3,390	411	12.1
Siskiyou	44,600	9,700	21.7
Solano	373,100	46,223	12.4
Sonoma	421,500	42,258	10.0
Stanislaus	415,300	95,653	23.0
Sutter	74,100	13,753	18.6
Tehama	54,400	12,013	22.1
Trinity	13,400	2,529	18.9
Tulare	351,500	105,329	30.0
Tuolumne	52,700	7,001	13.3
Ventura	716,100	76,712	10.7
Yolo	152,100	24,247	15.9
Yuba	62,200	19,785	31.8

/1/ Average Monthly Eligibles.

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service and Managed Care Plans.
Figures are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Finance, Population of California Counties, May 1996.
State of California, Department of Health Services, Cumulative Certified
CID Eligibles, July 1995 through October 1996, run date September 30, 1996.

TABLE 2
MEDI-CAL PROGRAM
AVERAGE MONTHLY ELIGIBLES, USERS, PROVIDER PAYMENTS,
USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES, AND COST PER USER BY COUNTY
FISCAL YEAR 1995-96

COUNTY	AVERAGE MONTHLY ELIGIBLES/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY USERS/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY PROVIDER PAYMENTS/1/	USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES/1/	COST PER USER/1/
STATEWIDE	4,332,129	2,198,528	\$790,030,052	50.7	\$ 359.35
Alameda	198,199	94,535	34,771,361	47.7	367.81
Alpine	228	80	25,762	35.1	322.03
Amador	2,585	1,381	563,960	53.4	408.37
Butte	42,875	22,581	6,740,634	52.7	298.51
Calaveras	5,096	2,584	747,720	50.7	289.37
Colusa	3,760	1,751	552,893	46.6	315.76
Contra Costa	79,019	39,182	14,432,804	49.6	368.35
Del Norte	6,752	3,551	870,029	52.6	245.01
El Dorado	13,211	5,831	1,847,142	44.1	316.78
Fresno	218,237	102,681	26,510,097	47.1	258.18
Glenn	5,700	2,824	837,460	49.5	296.55
Humboldt	23,872	12,942	4,227,142	54.2	326.62
Imperial	39,993	18,836	5,013,461	47.1	266.16
Inyo	2,890	1,392	472,810	48.2	339.66
Kern	147,408	67,308	18,981,826	45.7	282.01
Kings	25,346	13,156	3,673,470	51.9	279.22
Lake	13,721	7,478	2,161,082	54.5	288.99
Lassen	5,060	2,536	783,383	50.1	308.90
Los Angeles	1,482,021	801,328	299,403,625	54.1	373.63
Madera	28,075	13,452	3,522,639	47.9	261.87
Marin	13,011	7,055	3,125,362	54.2	443.00
Mariposa	2,259	1,171	364,342	51.8	311.14
Mendocino	17,629	9,587	3,067,968	54.4	320.01
Merced	64,947	29,426	7,080,624	45.3	240.62
Modoc	2,459	1,205	574,149	49.0	476.47
Mono	747	317	132,240	42.4	417.16
Monterey	56,212	24,396	9,973,469	43.4	408.82
Napa	11,439	5,760	3,525,946	50.4	612.14
Nevada	7,847	4,244	1,568,322	54.1	369.54
Placer	18,276	9,569	3,570,332	52.4	373.11
Plumas	3,140	1,697	689,947	54.0	406.57
Riverside	202,817	88,655	30,595,887	43.7	345.11
Sacramento/2/	144,588	52,270	20,858,775	36.2	399.06
San Benito	5,867	2,804	980,865	47.8	349.81
San Bernardino	269,022	125,727	42,892,227	46.7	341.15
San Diego	292,017	159,914	56,406,068	54.8	352.73
San Francisco	110,475	67,149	29,291,388	60.8	436.21
San Joaquin	114,476	60,831	17,536,607	53.1	288.28
San Luis Obispo	23,689	12,540	4,393,882	52.9	350.39
Santa Clara	186,049	91,831	38,056,085	49.4	414.41
Shasta	34,699	18,899	6,477,006	54.5	342.72
Sierra	411	212	197,610	51.6	932.12
Siskiyou	9,700	4,779	1,479,261	49.3	309.53
Sonoma	41,823	21,932	14,484,302	52.4	660.42
Stanislaus	95,653	48,734	13,902,287	50.9	285.27
Sutter	13,753	7,319	2,189,515	53.2	299.15
Tehama	12,013	6,071	1,639,151	50.5	270.00
Trinity	2,529	1,433	519,329	56.7	362.41
Tulare	105,329	52,008	18,879,630	49.4	363.01
Tuolumne	7,001	3,947	1,628,976	56.4	412.71
Ventura	76,712	38,382	18,111,689	50.0	471.88
Yolo	21,711	10,970	3,410,630	50.5	310.91
Yuba	19,785	9,358	2,314,626	47.3	247.34
Not Reported	0	2,929	3,972,259	0.0	1,356.18

/1/ County Organized Health Systems (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.

Excludes Managed Care Plans.

/2/ Availability of data is limited for Sacramento County.

Most Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) eligibles are covered by Geographic Managed Care (GMC).

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service.

Averages are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Health Services, Month of Payment Index Files, Fiscal Year 1995-96; Cumulative Certified CID Eligibles; PHP Status Code 1 Reports; and Advance Payment Work Sheets for County Organized Health Systems.